

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SNM-02 DEAE-00 ACDA-19 TRSE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5120

INFO USIA WASHDC

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL ADANA

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EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: SNAR, TU

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION: CYPRUS DEVELOPMENTS

1. THE POPPY STORY ALL BUT VANISHED FROM THE TURKISH DAILY PRESS WEDNESDAY IN THE WAKE OF THE CYPRUS CRISIS. FRONT PAGES IN ALMOST ALL PAPERS WERE FILLED EXCLUSIVELY WITH DETAILS OF THE RAPIDLY DEVELOPING SITUATION. HEADLINES STRESSED TURKEY'S DETERMINATION TO INTERVENE AND CARRIED REPORTS OF MAKARIOS' DEPARTURE FROM THE ISLAND, TURKISH, SOVIET AND AMERICAN FLEET MOVEMENTS, AND WORLD REACTION. MANY STORIES FOCUSSED ON ALLEGED TURKISH MILITARY PREPARATIONS. THUS HURRIYET, TURKEY'S LARGEST DAILY, CARRIED AS ITS MAIN FRONT PAGE HEADLINE: "OUR FLEET IS BEFORE RHODES AND LESBOS--OUR LAND, NAVAL AND AIR UNITS ARE ON FULL ALERT."

2. OFFICIAL U.S. REACTION RECEIVED LITTLE PLAY IN NEWS COLUMNS, ALTHOUGH SOME STORIES NOTED THE RETURN TUESDAY OF AMBASSADOR MACOMBER. IN A FRONT PAGE STORY, YENI ORTAM UNCLASSIFIED

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SPECULATED THAT THE AMBASSADOR BROUGHT PROPOSALS TO ANKARA

FROM WASHINGTON.

3. IN EDITORIALS AND COMMENT, WRITERS UNIVERSALLY SUPPORTED FIRM TURKISH ACTION. WRITING IN HURRIYET, ECVET GURESIN DECLARED: "...THERE IS A LIMIT TO PROTECTING PEACE. THERE SHOULD BE A LIMIT TO THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BEING A NATO MEMBER. THE AMERICANS, THE BRITISH AND THE GREEKS IN PARTICULAR KNOW HOW FASTIDIOUS TURKEY IS IN BALANCING TEMPRANCE AND NATIONAL PRIDE...THE ISSUE HAS NOT REACHED THE CRITICAL PHASE YET. BUT IT MIGHT. AND IF THIS HAPPENS, THIS TIME NEITHER THE LETTER TO BE WRITTEN BY NIXON NOR THE SMILES OF MR KISSINGER NOR THE SUGGESTIONS OF MR CALLAGHAN, NOR THE UN NOR NATO CAN STOP TURKEY."

4. MILLIYET EDITOR ABDI IPEKCI SUMMARIZED THE SITUATION THUS: "THE ATTEMPT OF THOSE TRYING TO CHANGE THE CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER IN CYPRUS BY FORCE IS BEING REPROACHED BY THE WHOLE WORLD OUTSIDE GREECE. EVERYBODY WANTS A RETURN TO LEGAL ADMINISTRATION IN CYPRUS. AN ULTIMATUM BY TURKEY TO THE REBELS DEMANDING THEY DROP THEIR ARMS, SURRENDER IMMEDIATELY, AND RETURN POWER TO LEGAL ADMINISTRATORS WILL BE A STEP IN THE DIRECTION OF THESE WISHES. IN CASE OF THE REFUSAL OF THE ULTIMATUM BY THE REBELS, A MOVE BY TURKEY AIMED NEITHER AT GREECE NOR THE GREEK COMMUNITY ON THE ISLAND BUT ONLY AT THE RESTORATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER WOULD CERTAINLY BE SUPPORTED AND MET WITH SYMPATHY. IF GREECE STANDS IN THE WAY, HER GUILT WILL BE REGISTERED, AND SHE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR TURNING THE ISSUE INTO A WAR."

5. WRITING IN CUMHURIYET, ALI SIRMEN TOOK EXCEPTION TO THE U.S. POSITION ON THE COUP IN CYPRUS: "...THE REACTION OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE EVENTS IN CYPRUS IS HIGHLY STRANGE AND LACKS A LEGAL BASIS. THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE ASSERTS THAT AMERICA SUPPORTS THE CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER, INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS. THIS EXPLANATION IS AS SILLY AS PRAYING FOR THE HEALTH OF A DEAD BODY. THERE IS NOT CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER IN CYPRUS AND THE CONSTITUTION WAS FLATTENED BY AN OUTSIDE INTERVENTION."

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6. IN PRO-GOVERNMENT BARIS, YASAR AYSEV SPECULATES ON U.S. ACQUIESCENCE IN THE CYPRUS COUP: "...WE DO NOT THINK THAT GREECE HAS STAGED THIS COUP WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OF WASHINGTON. FURTHERMORE, IT IS EVEN POSSIBLE THAT GREECE HAD SECURED THE CONSENT OF WASHINGTON ON THE SUBJECT OF THE COUP. ACCORDING TO A WIDESPREAD VIEW, IT COULD BE THOUGHT THAT THERE WAS THE FINGER OF THE CIA IN EVERY MILITARY COUP OF A RIGHTIST CHARACTER AROUND THE

WORLD. THAT TURKEY SHOULD BE TROUBLED WITH THE CYPRUS
ISSUE WHEN U.S. AID TO THIS COUNTRY IS CUT (SIC) AND
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE WORSE IS AN
INTERESTING COINCIDENCE. WILL NIXON SEND A LETTER TO
ECEVIT LIKE JOHNSON'S LETTER TO INONU IN 1963 WHEN TURKEY
EMPLOYS HER RIGHT OF INTERVENTION? OUR AMERICAN FRIENDS
SHOULD REMEMBER THE DAMAGE DONE IN TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS
BY THE JOHNSON LETTER."
MACOMBER

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